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MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA,

JANUARY 1, 1903.

DEAR SIR AND COMPANION:

The Society of American Wars, founded January 11, 1897, now includes within its companionship many of the foremost men of the country, attracted by its principles, its form of organization and its fellowship. On its rolls stand the names of seven hundred and forty-three Companions, including two hundred and sixty-four active and retired officers of the United States Army and Navy. Forty-five of its Companions are deceased. During this first epoch in our Society's history, the Minnesota Commandery, organized at the same time as the National Society has successfully carried on the work of the gathering of the Companionships throughout the Union. The Ohio Commandery, instituted February 22, 1899, has not maintained an active existence. The California Commandery, instituted September 9, 1899, has made a notable and successful record, placing it at the head of our Society in activity. Of late the work of State organization has progressed but slowly.

The Commandery-in-Chief with a full appreciation of the work that must now be done in organizing our national membership into active State Commanderies and the completion of our designs for Insignia and Diplomas in order that the Society may assume its destined high rank among the patriotic societies of the country, has elected Rear Admiral Henry Glass, U. S. N., our Commander General.

Admiral Glass in reply to our notification of his nomination said that he would be willing to accept the position for

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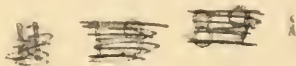
the purpose of carrying out the Society's plans for the organization of other State Commanderies, that all of our California Companions are intensely interested in the Society and that he will have their active and constant support in its work.

The brilliant progress of the California Commandery, under the leadership of Admiral Glass and his associates, is a sufficient earnest for the future as to what the National Society will become under their guidance,

I look back with great pride upon the earlier work of the Society, and it is with the heartiest good feeling and confidence that I see this work about to be undertaken, expanded and carried forward by the new officers of the Commandery-in-Chief.

Yours fraternally,

EDWARD JUNIUS EDWARDS,
Ex-Commander-General.



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